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any original investigations. He reproduces the opinions of various students of the question, such as Professors Seager and Holcombe, Beatrice and Sidney Webb, Dr. Clark, and others, but arrives at no other conclusion of his own on this "serious and complicated problem" except that for the present a "Scotch verdict" is all that can be given.

Mr. Boyle, though favorably disposed towards reform, is evidently in fear that the minimum wage is the first step on the road to state socialism which may lead further to full collectivism. After that Mr. Boyle sees terrifying visions—"the deluge!—socially, politically, and economically" (p. 84). No wonder that if Mr. Boyle is terror stricken by socialism, he can find no words strong enough to express his horror of syndicalism. In fact, what can be expected of a movement which is not "indorsed by a single recognized authority on politics or economics"? Evidently, it is but a "hysterical phenomenon, something similar to the outbreaks of the militant branch of the British suffragettes"—and what can be worse than that?

In contrast with the interpretation of syndicalism, Mr. Boyle's description of its main ideas is accurate and well worded. In a very few pages he has succeeded in presenting a very good succinct statement of syndicalist principles and of the points of difference between syndicalism and socialism. Points 8 and 9 on page 91, however, should have been made clearer. The reader is at a loss to say whether the syndicalists want each industrial group to possess the means of production or simply to use them under the control of society. The wording of point 8 expressly affirms the former; point 9 implies the latter statement. As many writers have been misled, it may be well to repeat here that the fundamental idea of syndicalism is the social ownership of the means of production; the labor unions are conceived in the future as managers and directors of industry.

LOUIS LEVINE.

History of Work Accident Indemnity in Iowa. By E. H. DOWNEY. Iowa Economic History Series. (Iowa City: The State Historical Society of Iowa. 1912. Pp. xiii, 337.)

Dr. Downey has presented his material as follows: The need of indemnity, genesis of employers' liability, analysis of the same, its practical working, accident indemnity abroad, indemnity legislation in the United States, the Iowa Employers' Liability Commission, and some standards of indemnity legislation. The book

is rather inappropriately named, for it neither confines itself to Iowa nor is it sufficiently extended to be a history of indemnity elsewhere. It might well be characterized as a sane, broadminded, progressive treatise intended to influence and to guide compensation legislation. As such a treatise it is a successful piece of work. The book, however, shows some gaps and lapses. The author is unduly pessimistic about the future number of accidents, when he declares that even in Germany work accidents are increasing both absolutely and relatively as industrial development goes forward (p. 3). His own authority (*Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor*, No. 92) makes it clear (p. 15) that the apparent increase is accounted for by statistical changes. It is, furthermore, well known that the safety movement in this country is showing marked results.

A few additional points against liability might well have been brought out by a treatment of the cost to the employer of claims paid as a matter of humanity or to keep the good will of labor, or of the consumer; the payments extorted by blackmail or through perjury; the distinct moral advantages of compensation, and the great social interest in compensation as a substitute for liability. In taking a positive stand for compulsory compensation, Dr. Downey fails to accord Minnesota its due praise for this principle, which has been referred to as "the Minnesota idea" and much urged by Hon. H. V. Mercer. By a law of 1910, New York put the burden of proving contributory negligence on the defendant employer (*Bulletin of the Bureau of Labor*, No. 91, p. 1092, sec. 202-209); consequently this idea of reversal of the burden of proof could not have originated with the Iowa commission (*Laws, 1911*), as stated by Dr. Downey (p. 171). The author might be criticised for failing in his condemnation of British compensation to praise the Britains for their provision for occupational diseases. No enthusiast for the civilized principle of compensation should forego an opportunity to declare the diseases of industry to be in the same class with the accidents. The industrial disease is simply the industrial accident in smaller, successive doses.

The author declares for exclusion of all remedies other than compensation, except where the employer has violated a safety law (p. 172). He stands for state insurance or for employers' mutual associations (p. 168). Here he is not convincing in asserting that through such insurance the cost of compensation can be more easily and certainly shifted to the consumer. Further-

more, it must be conceded that liability companies may possibly be brought so strictly under state regulation as both to afford reasonable cost for insurance and to effect reductions in accidents. It may be questioned, too, whether a free choice of physicians by workers would lead to quackery (p. 187). The author makes a good point for his favored plans of insurance by suggesting the economy of such plans and their advantage in allowing assessment insurance. Contributions by workers are condemned, but the advantages of the German system are praised. The book likewise condemns the maximum weekly limit and the time limit of so many weeks or years in paying benefits (pp. 187 ff.). Dr. Downey deals effectively with the time-worn fear of interstate competition (p. 190).

Wisconsin is deservedly praised for its administrative board legislation, but its plan borrowed from Germany of tripartite cooperation among state, employers, and workers, indispensable to successful drafting and administering of labor laws, is not sufficiently emphasized; nor is Minnesota given its due share of praise for the large part that it has played in the compensation movement through the compensation work started in the Minnesota Bar Association in 1908 by Hon. Pierce Butler, through Governor Johnson's commission, and through the agitation of Hon. W. E. McEwen and the Minnesota State Federation of Labor.

Limitations of space forbid discussion of Dr. Downey's plan for a commission representing labor, capital, and the law.

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